

SPORTS AS THE ADVERTISERS SEE THEM

WALTER JOHNSON AND TY COBB STAND OUT AS THE BEST PLAYERS IN AMERICAN LEAGUE

IT is now eight seasons that Walter Johnson has been pitching baseball to all batmen of both high and low degree in the American league. And it was eight seasons ago that the great Walter first began to devise ways and means to prevent a certain Mr. Cobb from swatting the above mentioned baseball. How well he has succeeded this tale will tell.

These two athletes are considered the greatest ball players in the circuit dominated by B. B. Johnson—that is, in their respective positions. Cobb's record proves conclusively that he is

the champion batsman of his league and, for that matter, the whole world. The same can be said about Mr. Johnson in his profession as a hurler.

Mr. Cobb is a southern gentleman, tall, fair and slender—that is, he looks slender, but his looks are deceiving, for the scales tell us that he weighs about 180 pounds. The hurriers of the American league are inclined to believe he weighs more than that from the manner in which he lands on their curves. Mr. Walter Johnson is also tall and fair, but not very slender. In fact, he is a powerfully built young man, and Walter is young, having just turned

twenty-seven. With a graceful swing of his arm the big hurler from Kansas can send a baseball through with the speed of a Krupp gun.

Tyrus Raymond Cobb has had splendid success as a batsman against all the American league pitchers save W. Johnson. This man they call the "Georgia Peach" has maulled the curves of about every other slinger in the league, slammed them almost at will. He has fattened his batting average off the hurling of that mighty red man from faroff Minnesota, Chief Bender, and has hit the terrible crossfire delivery of the great Edward Plank, and this foxy Plank used to be a sore puzzle to almost all the expert left handed batsmen of the American league, but he failed to puzzle the great Cobb.

Just one hurler has held the whip hand over this demon batsman—only one. When the tall lad known as the "Idaho Wonder" began operations against Ty Cobb back in August, 1907, he was as green as the new mown hay, and his very first game in the big league was against the Tigers and Tyrus Cobb. In three times at bat Cobb failed to make a safe hit. In fact, Johnson allowed the lad from Georgia only four hits in the first twenty-four times at bat. This was rather discouraging to the gentleman from Royston, Ga., and he has had rather a discouraging time of it ever since, the "Idaho Wonder" has been a bad proposition for T. Raymond to solve.

Walter Johnson has faced Cobb in the capacity of pitcher just 133 times in eight seasons and of that many times at bat the champion batsman of the American league—and the world—has been sent back to the bench 103 times hitless and cheerless, the gentleman from the south failing to swat the ball in his usual bithesome manner when facing the consistent Mr. Johnson. So the modest and retiring Walter has the honor of being about the only hurler to hold the fiery Cobb in subjection.

In the 133 times that Cobb faced the Washington star he made thirty-one base hits, and just six of the hits were better than singles, consisting of three doubles and three triples. These figures would give Cobb a batting average for the eight seasons he has maintained a calling acquaintance with Mr. Johnson of .233. These figures do not include Johnson's recent game against the Tigers, in which Ty got three hits in four times up.

CONNIE MACK PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

CONNIE MACK is several years ahead of other major league managers in the fact that he realizes the only way to get a winning ball team is to develop his own youngsters. Connie has started building up from the ground. Every morning he has twenty-five young fellows at his ball park, watches them in action and instructs them how to correct their faults.

The squad of youngsters is made up of players from colleges and independent teams, and Mack has not the slightest doubt that in due time he will have developed a lot of players of class.

Konetchy Playing Well For the Pittsburgh Feds



Photo by American Press Association.

BIG ED KONETCHY, the Pittsburgh Feds' first sacker, is now putting up the brand of ball that made him famous. Last season he fell of some what in his playing at the initial station. But this year he is covering his position in masterly style.

A TIM HURST STORY.

THE late Tim Hurst, famous as a baseball umpire and boxing referee, was honest, fearless and witty. He was wont to meet and overcome emergencies with witcidisms which made for him friends everywhere.

His honesty as an athletic official was unquestioned throughout his career, and he was most strongly stirred whenever a spectator at a ball game or boxing contest inferred that a decision of his was made for the purpose of benefiting one or the other of the contestants.

Perhaps no act of his more completely illustrated his honesty and certain way to get a winning ball team is to develop his own youngsters. Connie has started building up from the ground. Every morning he has twenty-five young fellows at his ball park, watches them in action and instructs them how to correct their faults.

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EXPERT BELIEVES PART BONUS AND STRAIGHT SYSTEM FOR PLAYERS WILL BENEFIT BASEBALL IN GENERAL

A PART bonus and part straight salary system in the baseball players' contracts would do much to correct some of the present salary injustices of baseball.

At the present time many magnates are bewailing the fact that some of their stars, who are drawing fat salaries under long term, ironclad contracts, are not giving their best efforts, while some of the young players who are outbating and outfielding the veterans are howling because they are too to contracts that call for only one-half or one-third of the salary that is paid to the high priced shirkers.

This condition could be remedied for all time by paying to each player a fixed salary of a small amount each year and putting a schedule of bonuses in his contract which would enable him to get paid for what he really is worth.

One suggestion, concretely, is this:

Fix a standard salary for each player somewhere around \$1,800 or \$2,000 a year, which sum the player is to get no matter how his work shows up. Then arrange a bonus system that is applicable to each branch of baseball.

In the case of pitchers, a bonus of \$1,000 could go to all pitchers finishing the season with an average of .500 or better, \$1,500 bonus money to the men winning 60 per cent of their games, \$2,000 bonus to the men winning two-thirds of their games, \$3,000 bonus to men winning three-fourths of their games, \$4,000 bonus to men finishing with a mark above .750.

In this way a pitcher would get paid for what he did during the present season—not on his record of several seasons before. And in this way a kid pitcher would have as fair a chance to get big money as the veteran. All the kid would need to do would be to win games.

Pitchers could be given a small bonus for batting and fielding above a certain amount, but should not be allowed to figure in the general bonus of other players for fielding and batting.

Outfielders, infielders and catchers could be guaranteed \$2,000 a year and would earn their bonuses by their fielding and batting averages. Here is a schedule of bonuses that is suggested for batting:

341 to 350.....	\$500	351 to 360.....	\$1,250
361 to 370.....	\$500	371 to 380.....	\$1,500
381 to 390.....	\$500	391 to 400.....	\$1,750
401 to 410.....	\$500	411 to 420.....	\$2,000
421 to 430.....	\$500	431 to 440.....	\$2,250
441 to 450.....	\$500	451 to 460.....	\$2,500
461 to 470.....	\$500	471 to 480.....	\$2,750
481 to 490.....	\$500	491 to 500.....	\$3,000
501 to 510.....	\$500	511 to 520.....	\$3,250
521 to 530.....	\$500	531 to 540.....	\$3,500
541 to 550.....	\$500	551 to 560.....	\$3,750
561 to 570.....	\$500	571 to 580.....	\$4,000
581 to 590.....	\$500	591 to 600.....	\$4,250
601 to 610.....	\$500	611 to 620.....	\$4,500
621 to 630.....	\$500	631 to 640.....	\$4,750
641 to 650.....	\$500	651 to 660.....	\$5,000
661 to 670.....	\$500	671 to 680.....	\$5,250
681 to 690.....	\$500	691 to 700.....	\$5,500
701 to 710.....	\$500	711 to 720.....	\$5,750
721 to 730.....	\$500	731 to 740.....	\$6,000
741 to 750.....	\$500	751 to 760.....	\$6,250
761 to 770.....	\$500	771 to 780.....	\$6,500
781 to 790.....	\$500	791 to 800.....	\$6,750
801 to 810.....	\$500	811 to 820.....	\$7,000
821 to 830.....	\$500	831 to 840.....	\$7,250
841 to 850.....	\$500	851 to 860.....	\$7,500
861 to 870.....	\$500	871 to 880.....	\$7,750
881 to 890.....	\$500	891 to 900.....	\$8,000
901 to 910.....	\$500	911 to 920.....	\$8,250
921 to 930.....	\$500	931 to 940.....	\$8,500
941 to 950.....	\$500	951 to 960.....	\$8,750
961 to 970.....	\$500	971 to 980.....	\$9,000
981 to 990.....	\$500	991 to 1,000.....	\$9,250

Here is a schedule of bonuses for fielding:

Outfielders and Catchers—

940 to 950.....	\$200	971 to 980.....	\$750
951 to 960.....	\$250	981 to 990.....	\$1,000
961 to 970.....	\$300	991 to 1,000.....	\$1,500

Infielders—

925 to 930.....	\$200	961 to 970.....	\$1,000
931 to 940.....	\$250	971 to 980.....	\$1,300
941 to 950.....	\$300	981 to 990.....	\$1,600
951 to 960.....	\$350	991 to 1,000.....	\$1,900

A penalty system could be so that a player who batted under a minimum figure or who fielded under a minimum figure would suffer for deductions from the bonus earned in the other departments. For instance, if a player hit .295 he would be entitled to \$1,000 bonus money, but if he fielded only .900 he would be subject to a deduction of \$250 from the bonus earned in batting.

If a player didn't earn any bonuses and hit and fielded below the minimum no deductions are to be made, as the \$2,000 straight salary would be immune from deductions.

With the bonus system in operation an infielder who hit for .325 and fielded .965 would get \$2,000 bonus for batting and \$1,000 bonus for fielding, making a total salary of \$5,000. That system seems to be a fair one.

Bonuses also could be arranged whereby a player would get \$5 for every stolen base, \$5 for each player participating in a double play and \$25 for each player participating in a triple play. Outfielders could be given an extra \$5 or \$10 for every man thrown out at the plate or at one of the bases, and catchers could be given a small bonus for every man thrown out in an attempt to steal a base.

A bonus system of this sort would spur the players on to greater endeavor. They would know that only by hustling would they grab off a big salary. There wouldn't be any loafing. Every man would play every minute of the time.

Ainsmith One of Strongest Catchers



Photo by American Press Association.

ACCORDING to Manager Clark Griffith, Washington has two of the leading American league catchers in Ainsmith and Henry. Ainsmith, says Griffith, is one of the strongest men in the organization.

When the Alabama Sports Editor Put Good One Over on Ty Cobb

TY COBB is not the "best ball player on earth." He has forfeited that title to an unknown bush leaguer from Alabama. He knows it and the "unknown" knows it, but the story has never been told in print.

A few seasons ago Ty Cobb toured the south as one of the heroes in "The College Widow." He was billed to appear at the "leading theater in the Magic City of Alabama," that city being Birmingham. Allen G. Johnson, sports editor and dramatic critic of the News, thought he would have Cobb act as sports editor during his stay in the city. He wrote to the "Widow's" press agent, and the actor at once accepted the job. Cobb was rushed to the city room, where his "editorship" consisted of the dictation of a "story" asserting that the Detroit Tigers would win the next season's American league pennant and the approval of a black "streamer" across the sports pages announcing that Cobb was the News' sports editor.

That day the newsboys could not stop looking at Cobb long enough to sell papers. Ty was the biggest thing in Birmingham and he knew it.

But the managing editor of the News was not a baseball fan. He believed that the public should not be asked to pay \$2 to see an "actor" who was only a baseball player. He expressed his belief to the sports and dramatic editor, instructing him to review Cobb's histrionic performance and to forget that this actor was a 400-hitter.

"Actor" Cobb batted his cues that night well enough to get a curtain call at the end of the second act. In his speech he admitted that he liked the shouting from the bleachers better than the applause from the galleries. The sports editor, then dramatic editor, endeavored to view the whole performance from the angle of the theatrical critic. His review was harsh, and it did not eulogize Tyrus as a matinee idol.

Cobb not as far as Detroit before the critic heard from him again at the News office. Then from the Tigers' lair came a scorching letter. "Your criticism is beneath my notice," Cobb wrote, "but I just want you to see what a few real critics say about my work (clippings enclosed)."

"I am a better actor than you are, a better sports editor than you are, a better dramatic critic than you are, I make more money than you do and I know I am a better ball player—so why should inferior critics criticize me?"

The critic wrote back: "I admit that you are a better critic, actor, sports editor and money maker than I am, Mr. Cobb, but I refuse to admit that you are a better ball player. I have seen you play ball and know what you are doing, but you have never seen me in action on the diamond. Therefore I now challenge you to a game at Rickwood field, the Birmingham Southern league ball ground, July 4, for the championship of the world. If you do not appear to play me I will claim the championship for forfeit."

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1915 PROVES GREAT YEAR FOR DEVELOPING TENNIS PLAYERS

IT seems probable that when the final review of the season of the present year of grace on the American lawn tennis courts is compiled, the official historians will write down as chiefly remarkable for the general development of a great number of players.

Numbers are beginning to find the excitement and the joy of the fine direct competition which the game affords. The Davis cup matches have proved of rare educational value. Many, hitherto skeptical, have come to realize that physical endurance of the highest type is as much required in the sport of the courts as on the football field, in the varsity crew or in the boxing ring.

An instance of what that physical test means was illustrated some time back on the courts of the Morristown Field club, where Miss Molla Bjurstedt, the girl from Norway who has held attention focused on her remarkable playing for several months at last yielded to the collapse of strained and tired muscles. Miss Bjurstedt is no weakling.

Those who have seen her in action assure to that she is one of the opponents who have met defeat at her hands. The daughter of vikings seemed possessed of a constitution of iron and steel springs. Her vigor and amazing vitality made her a star performer in any tournament, and every club of any prominence eagerly sought her entry or her appearance in a special match.

The path of the lawn tennis "prima donna" is not exactly strewn with roses. It is the same way with the men who have won laurels on the courts. Pressure is brought to bear from all directions to secure the appearance of the victor on the tennis courts. It is almost impossible, unless actually engaged in another match, to refuse. The physical strain is terrific, and at last the willing player snaps under the miles of footwork and the dealing of hammering blows with the racket, just as Miss Bjurstedt has. The paths to glory in lawn tennis lead to exhaustion due to too much competition and an excess of entertainment.

Miss Bjurstedt is no exception to the rule. Maurice E. McLoughlin, Miss Sutton, Beals Wright at the height of his career and others who have worn the purple of the courts have all experienced the trials of the physical demands which the game makes upon those who follow it closely and who rise to its greatest heights.

As the ever increasing numbers of players learn that real physical condition plays an important part in tennis, that it will be a severe test for the trained athlete, it has grown in favor. One of the things that has directly handicapped the growth of the game

in this country has been the use of the word "love" in the score as a synonym for nothing.

For nothing. The peg on which to hang many a jest. The influx of the juniors, the actual opportunity to see the great players in action and to know that it is no "baby game" has resulted in bringing crowds to the courts, few of whom will ever find their names on the ranking list. The park commissioners of the various cities all over the country state that the demand for playing space has grown to be a serious problem.

They are meeting it as best they can, for the thousands who participate on the courts of the parks and at the great number of public courts now being laid out in every locality, but it is not where a charge of so much per hour is made for the use of the court has become such a vast army as to cause the list of club and tournament players to be insignificant by comparison.

Strange as it may seem, the west is completely outstripping the east in the rapid development of the game. One of the prominent manufacturers of tennis rackets, who has a large demand for implements of the sport throughout the west. A manufacturing silversmith has been kept busy turning out cups and trophies which are to be competed for in tournaments in Colorado, Montana and Rocky Mountain states.

Robert D. Wrenn, president of the national association, awoke to the position that the west is taking when he received a deluge of applications for the eastern states team to stop over for special matches on its way to the Pacific coast.

So great has become the interest in tennis that the national association has made offers to the national association to defray all the expenses of the team, which will include R. Norris Williams 2d, the national champion, if the team would stop at their city for problems of a day or two.

Not long ago a movement was started by some of the tennis players to petition the national association to change the rule and allow fifteen minutes' rest after the second set. It is not definitely stated who was behind this motion, but it can be fairly well guessed. What action the executive will take on the question can hardly be foreseen now, but it is to be hoped that they will be chary in making new rules which will prove advantageous only to the chosen few as against the many.

Lawn tennis is an athletic pastime, and the athlete of it must not be too much suppressed even among the ranks of the fair sex. Condition is one of the factors in tennis, and not the least of them, and good condition is surely worth some reward for the effort put forth in its accomplishment.

To allow too long a rest period before the final deciding set can only be to favor the old campaigner, the great general, as against her more active and less seasoned antagonist.

In other words, to allow a period of rest wherein the tired player could recuperate would be doing a gross injustice to the younger exponent, who, by her own untiring efforts, had gained just this advantage and had to sit around and see it vanish during the seemingly interminable time allowed for the other player to get ready for the critical set. If a player cannot win in straight sets her condition is not good enough to let her win in three; she must either get in better condition or allow the younger and more athletic player to reap the benefit of her long training and perfect physical condition.

Larned, retired from the national because he had to play through the championship, but if he had been allowed a sufficient rest between the sets he still might be the champion. This was never even thought of, and he still came into his own. To allow all kinds of time for rest in the woman's national event would be a step in the wrong direction and savor very distinctly of favoritism to the body of older players who, while still truly skilful, have lost the spring and dash of youth. We need to encourage the young new players, not discourage them, and a rule that would be all in favor of a select few would not be the thing to foster playing among the growing champions of the next few years.

JOHNSON AND SCHANG VALUABLE BALL PLAYERS.

WALTER JOHNSON of Washington and Wallie Schang of Philadelphia, playing on the same club, would come pretty close to forming a whole nine in themselves. Johnson is the king of pitchers, and Schang is a remarkable catcher; but, unlike most star specialists, they possess other virtues.

Schang has played four different positions for the Athletics already this season and may play more before the year dies. He's worked behind the bat, at first base, at third base and in the outfield and worked well. Besides, he's the club's cleanup hitter—an added responsibility—and on the paths he's fast, very fast, for a catcher.

Johnson impresses as much with his hitting as with his pitching, and Manager Griffith is beginning to be impressed the same way. The other day Griffith played Johnson in the outfield and used him in the cleanup role, and Johnson had a perfect day at bat, getting two hits, sacrificing and walking. And every now and then Johnson is sent in as a pinch hitter.

Rowing Doesn't Give Oarsmen Athletic Heart

DR. ROGER L. LEE, professor of hygiene at Harvard, with Dr. E. L. Young, Jr., the surgeon to the Harvard crew, and Dr. Wallace J. Dodd, roentgenologist, has undertaken a series of studies on Harvard graduate and undergraduate athletes in an effort to prove or disprove the frequent assertion that rowing has the effect of enlarging the heart of the average male athlete who goes in for this strenuous sport.

Dr. Lee selected three groups of men for his experiments, and in his first squad he had sixteen candidates for the freshman crew. The sixteen most promising men on the varsity squad, including practically the varsity and second, formed Dr. Lee's second group, while the third group was made up of ten graduates, all of whom had rowed four mile races in college.

The doctor found that the hearts of the older athletes were slightly larger than those of the younger athletes, but the first group, but in regard to this circumstance Dr. Lee expressed the opinion that this difference in the size of hearts was no more than normal in men of greater age and development, and therefore could not be laid to any results from rowing competitions. In his report Dr. Lee says:

"The difference was rather striking on casual inspection. A given freshman may be as tall or weigh as much as the varsity man or graduate, but he is usually, obviously, not so well developed or muscled."

Dr. Lee's study in a series of point of age the freshmen averaged 18.6 years, the varsity 20.37 years and the graduates 23.3 years. It is difficult to draw any definite conclusions from the study of such a small group of cases. There may be damage to the heart in other ways than actual enlargement. The present study does not bear upon that point.

"The size of the heart in every way was nearly the same in the candidates for the varsity crew who averaged twenty years, and in the graduate oarsmen, all of whom had continued active, competitive rowing since leaving college and who averaged twenty-eight years."

It is impossible to reconcile this striking fact with the supposition that prolonged participation in rowing enlarges the heart.

In other words, no evidence has been discovered in the study of this group of forty-two cases that would tend to show that the present system of intercollegiate rowing, with a four mile race and with a long preliminary training period, causes any permanent damage to the heart particularly.

SLOW INFIELD HELPS ROTH.

MANAGER MACK of the Philadelphia Athletics says that the peculiar slow infield on the Chicago White Sox park enables Roth, the Milwaukee recruit, to play great ball at "third" base at home, but that he is helpless on a fast diamond. This accounts for Rowland's continual switching of third sackers. While on the road Roth plays in the outfield, but returns to third base when the team is at home.

MILLER HUGGINS PUTTING UP A BRILLIANT GAME

ALTHOUGH it appears at present that the St. Louis Cardinals are out of the pennant hunt it is not due to any fault of Manager Miller Huggins. All season Huggins has been playing brilliant ball.

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HUGHES HAD TOUGH LUCK

He Couldn't Fan Baker, and J. Franklin Hit a Homer.

THERE may have been many ball games lost by the breaks of luck going against one side or the other at the critical stage of a game, but it is questionable whether baseball records worse luck than Tom Hughes, the old Washington pitcher, encountered while apparently pitching his team to its eighteenth consecutive victory in the spring of 1915.

The game was played in Philadelphia, and the score stood 1 to 0 in favor of the Nationals in the last half of the ninth. There were two men out, and Baker was at bat. Hughes worked two strikes on him, and then sent a fast one through the middle of the plate, which Baker foul tipped. The ball struck Henry's big mitt, but fell out, and on the very next ball pitched Baker hit for a home run over the right field fence, tying the score, while Strunk, who followed him in the batting order, rolled a little grounder to Hughes and was out at first.

The game was won by the Mackmen in the tenth. Hughes blames himself for allowing Baker to hit. "I had no right to take any chance with him at that stage and should have walked him and pitched to Strunk," Hughes afterward said. But that, of course, was second thought after the game.

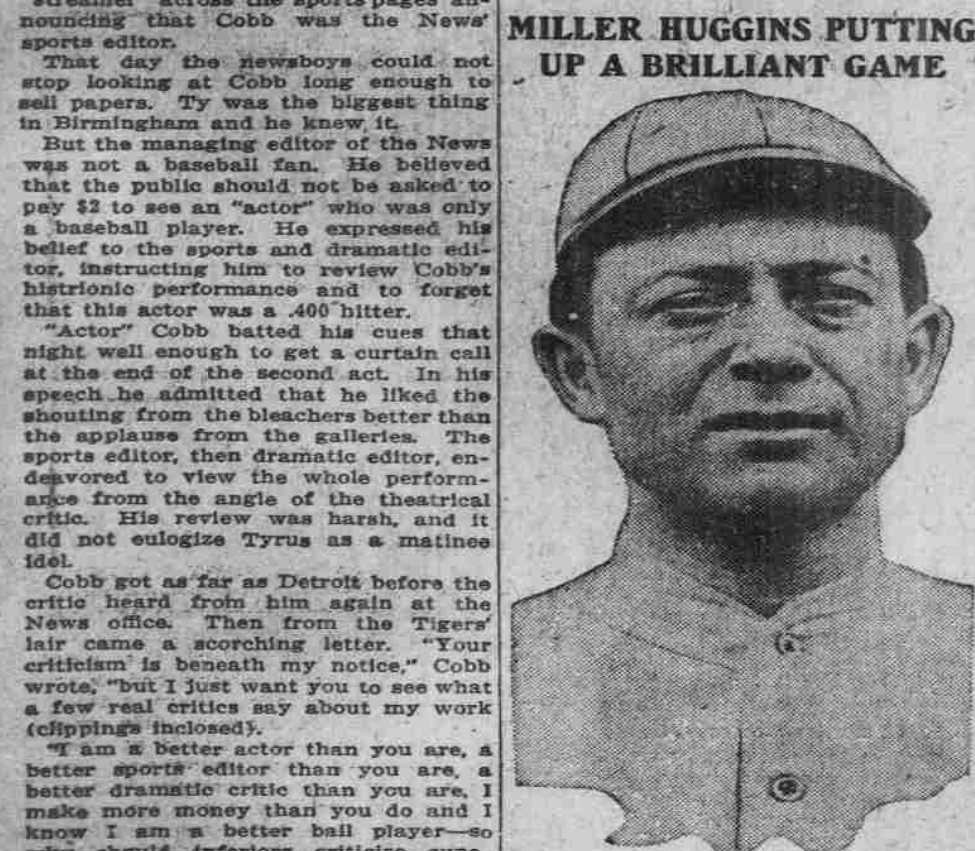


Photo by American Press Association.

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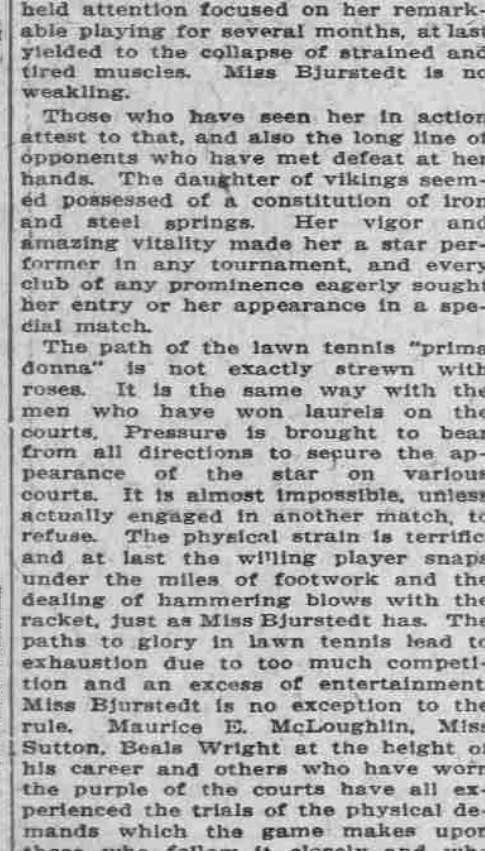


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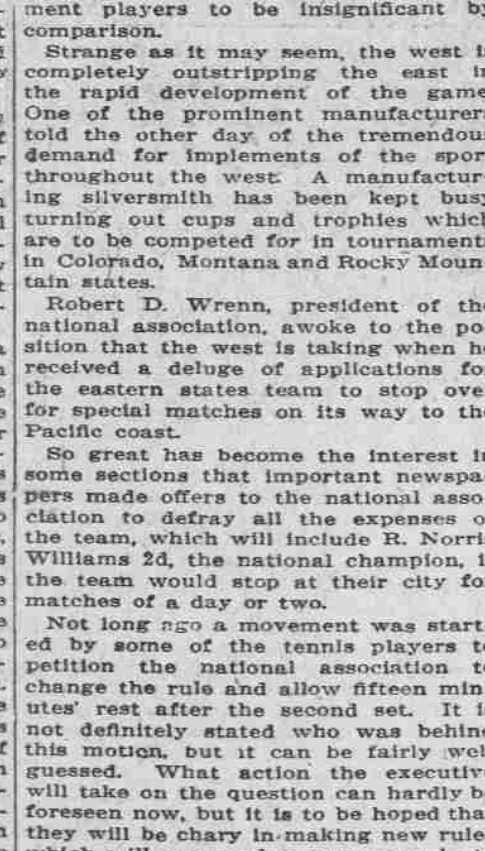


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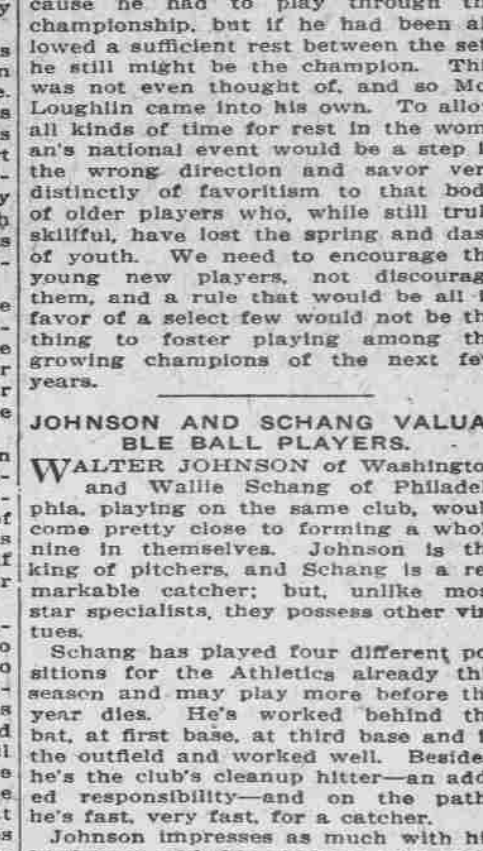


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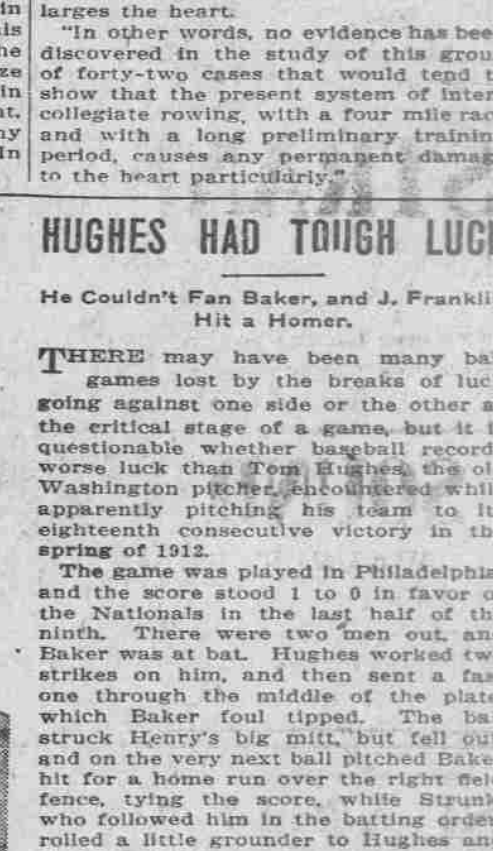


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